



# Department of Justice

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**BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY HUSBAND AND WIFE CRACK DEALERS**  
**SENTENCED FOR THEIR ROLE IN THE "FADZ 4 DAYZ"**  
**BARBER SHOP DRUG CASE**

- Albert Ferguson sentenced to 1 year and 6 months*
- Benita Ferguson sentenced to 2 years and 6 months*
- Part of "Fadz 4 Dayz" Barber Shop Drug Case*
- Couple tried to "cover up" drug activity*

BOWLING GREEN, KY - Albert Ferguson, age 37, and his wife Benita Ferguson, age 39, of Bowling Green, Kentucky, in Warren County, were sentenced on December 4, 2008, in United States District Court, Bowling Green, Kentucky, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky and Paul Vido, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Louisville Field Division, jointly announced today.

Thomas B. Russell, Judge, United States District Court, sentenced Albert Ferguson to 2 years and 6 months imprisonment followed by 2 years supervised release. Judge Russell sentenced Benita Ferguson to 1 year and 6 months imprisonment followed by 2 years supervised release. There is no parole in the federal system.

The couple had previously pled guilty to being accessories after the fact regarding the possession with intent to distribute five grams or more of cocaine base, commonly referred to as "crack" cocaine. According to the Fergusons' Plea Agreements (which were filed in open court), on or about February 17, 2006, law enforcement officials executed a search warrant on the Fergusons' home located at 525 Butler Way, Bowling Green, Kentucky. They seized 17.4

grams of crack cocaine from a lock box located underneath the couple's bed. The crack cocaine had an estimated street value of \$1,000.00. Law enforcement officials also seized digital scales covered in a white powder, suspected to be cocaine, from the bedroom.

That same day, Benita Ferguson went to the Bowling Green Police Department. She stated that she wanted to talk to someone about the search warrant. While talking to law enforcement officials about the search of her home and the seizure of the crack cocaine, Benita Ferguson stated that she had found the lock box at a construction site approximately two years before the interview. She further stated that she had brought the lock box home and placed it under her bed.

At the time Benita Ferguson made the statement to law enforcement officials, she knew that her brother, Richard Cox, owned the digital scales, lock box, and its contents, including the crack cocaine. Benita Ferguson knew that her brother, Richard Cox, kept items in the lock box because he often came to her home, placing items in and taking items out of the box. Richard Cox intended to distribute the crack cocaine. Benita Ferguson made the false statements to law enforcement in an effort to hinder or prevent the trial or punishment of Richard Cox for drug trafficking.

Additionally, the next day, February 18, 2006, Albert Ferguson contacted the Bowling Green ATF Office and asked to speak to a Special Agent. He left his cellular telephone number for a return call. A short while later, an ATF agent called Albert Ferguson and arranged a meeting between Albert Ferguson and law enforcement officials. Albert Ferguson traveled to the Bowling Green Police Department where he was met by law enforcement officials who advised him of his constitutional rights. Albert Ferguson told the law enforcement officials that the crack cocaine found in his bedroom did not belong to him. He told the officials that his wife, Benita, had found the lock box approximately one year ago at a construction site, had brought it

home, and placed it under their bed. Albert Ferguson asked to call his wife to come to the police station. Approximately 15 minutes later, Benita Ferguson arrived and the two left.

At the time Albert Ferguson made the statement to law enforcement officials, he knew that his wife's brother, Richard Cox, owned the digital scales, lock box, and its contents, including the crack cocaine. Albert Ferguson knew that his brother-in-law, Richard Cox, kept items in the lock box because he often came to the home, placing items in and taking items out of the box. Richard Cox intended to distribute the crack cocaine. Albert Ferguson made the false statements to law enforcement in an effort to hinder or prevent the trial or punishment of Richard Cox for drug trafficking.

The guilty pleas stemmed from a year-long investigation by the ATF, Bowling Green / Warren County Drug Task Force, Kentucky State Police, Warren County Sheriff's Office, Western Kentucky University Police Department, and the Bowling Green Police Department. The investigation centered around drug trafficking activity in and around the Fadz 4 Dayz Barber Shop located at 2319 Russellville Road, Bowling Green, Kentucky. Benita and Albert Ferguson's connection to the case was Cox.

Ten individuals were indicted in conjunction with the investigation in May 2006. Corey Ferguson was found guilty June 12, 2007, by a federal jury in United States District Court, Bowling Green, Kentucky, of conspiracy and aiding and abetting the distribution of 500 grams or more of cocaine. All of the remaining co-defendants, including Richard Cox, Jerome Shanklin, Collin Carpenter, William Downy, Trevor Hampton, and Derrick Lander previously pled guilty to drug-related charges in federal court. Cox was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment, Shanklin to 5 years imprisonment, Carpenter to 20 years imprisonment, Downey to 18 years imprisonment, Hampton to time served, and Lander to 5 years imprisonment. Co-defendant Damon Nelson pled guilty to related charges in Warren Circuit Court. Corey

Ferguson awaits sentencing which is currently scheduled for January 16, 2008, at 12:00 p.m.

Assistant United States Attorney Jo E. Lawless prosecuted the case. The Bowling Green Field Office of ATF conducted this investigation in partnership with the Warren County / Bowling Green Drug Task Force, as part of their mandated mission to reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety.

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